MARKED VERSION

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. (Currently amended) A pipette tip for sample preparation, which contains chromatography particles and has an open upper end and a closed lower end and has one or more perforations at the said lower end to permit the passage of fluids through said perforations while retaining said chromatographic particles in the said pipette tip, said chromatographic particles are larger in size than the said perforations.

2. (Original) A pipette tip, as in claim 1, wherein said pipette tip is a holding unit is selected from the group consisting of a tube, a housing, a column, and a vial.
3. (Cancelled) A pipette tip, as in claims 1 or 2, wherein said pipette tip can be of any shape or size.
4. (Original) A pipette tip, as in claim 1, wherein multiple units of said pipette tip are joined together.
5. (Cancelled) A pipette tip, as in claim 1, wherein said top end is an open end or a closed end.

6. (Cancelled) A pipette tip, as in claim 1, wherein said bottom end is an open end or a closed end.

7. (Original) A pipette tip, as in claim 1, wherein said pipette tip is made of materials selected from

the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene, polysulfone, polyethersulfone, polypropylene, polyethylene, fluoropolymers, cellulose acetate, polystyrene, polystyrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, PVDF, glass, and combination thereof.

8. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein the volume of said pipette tip is between 0.00001 and 100 milliliters.

9. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein one or more of said perforations are made at the bottom of or on the lateral sides of said pipette tip.

10. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein said perforations include one or more selected from the group consisting of cracks, slits, cuts, holes, incisions orifices, and combination thereof.

11. (Original) A pipette tip as in claims 1, wherein the method to make said perforations is a chemical or physical method selected from the group consisting of cutting with a knife, blade, or laser beam, applying heat or pressure, using chemical reactions, and combination thereof.

12. (Cancelled) Perforations or incisions as in claims 1 and 10, wherein said perforations or incisions are made during the molding process through which the pipette tip, as in claims 1, 2 or 4 is formed.

13. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein said pipette tip contains a chromatographic or

separation material which can be in a form from the group consisting of particle, powder, sheet, woven, non-woven, and combination thereof.

14. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein said chromatographic particles is selected from the group consisting of one type of material, a mixture of different sizes of particles, different types of materials, and combination thereof.

15. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein said chromatography particles is selected from the group consisting of chromatographic silica, polystyrene, carbon, polymers, media, gels, solid powders, media used for the purposes of sample filtration, separation or purification.

16. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1, wherein said chromatography particles can be chemically or physically modified to alter the nature of the separation process.

17. (Cancelled) A pipette tip which has an upper end and a lower end and which has one or more perforations or incisions at the lower end to permit the selective passage of smaller particles or fluids through said perforations or incisions while retaining larger particles in the tip during a sample separation process.

18. (Cancelled) A sample separation process as in claim 17, wherein said sample separation process can consist of any method used to separate, filter or purify molecules or particles, through centrifugation, gravitation, vacuum suction, pressure application, syringe-based sample delivery through the container, or any other applicable methods.

19. (Cancelled) A sample separation process as in claim 17, wherein said sample separation process is performed for applications from the group consisting of purification of proteins, peptides, DNA and other bio-molecules, size-based separation of molecules, chemical properties based separation of sample components, physical properties based separation of sample components.

20. (Original) A pipette tip as in claim 1 wherein said pipette tip is combined with a piston designed to pull the sample into said pipette tip or push said sample out of said pipette tip.

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